

Message Text

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TAGS:PARM, TECH, IAEA, UK

SUBJECT:PHYSICAL SECURITY DISCUSSIONS IN VIENNA AND LONDON

REFS: A. LONDON 3841, B. STATE 36745

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C. NOSENZO/LABOWITZ TELECON OF MARCH 12

1. THE FRG AND FRENCH AS WELL AS BRITISH (REF A) HAVE CONFUSED (A) CURRENT US EXPLORATORY EFFORTS IN VIENNA TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE PHYSICAL SECURITY CONVENTION AND (B) MARCH 31 NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS MEETING OF EXPERTS IN LONDON TO ADDRESS PHYSICAL SECURITY PROVISION OF SUPPLIERS GUIDELINES. EACH HAS QUESTIONED WHY CONVENTION ACTIVITY IN VIENNA CANNOT WAIT UNTIL AFTER LONDON MEETING. MOREOVER, SECRETARY IN HIS MARCH 9 TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REFERRED TO CONSIDERATION OF PHYSICAL SECURITY AT THE SCHEDULED JUNE MEETING OF NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS. EMBASSIES SHOULD THEREFORE ATTEMPT ON IMMEDIATE BASIS TO CLEAR UP SITUATION REGARDING NATURE AND TIMING OF VARIOUS CONSULTATIONS ON PHYSICAL SECURITY.

2. EMBASSIES SHOULD CONVEY FOLLOWING TO APPROPRIATE FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS.

--US WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT WE SEE WORK ON PHYSICAL SECURITY CONVENTION AS RELATED BUT SEPARATE REPEAT SEPARATE EXERCISE FROM WORK IN CONTEXT OF SUPPLIERS MEETINGS.

--PHYSICAL SECURITY CONVENTION PRIMARILY CONCERNS LEGAL ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL TRANSIT, INTERNATIONAL RECOVERY AND PROSECUTION RE STOLEN MATERIAL OR SABOTAGE. IT WILL, IF IT IS TO SUCCEED, HAVE TO END UP BEING NEGOTIATED IN BROAD MULTILATERAL INTERNATIONAL FORUM.

--AS INDICATED BY THE SECRETARY IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE UNGA THE LAST TWO YEARS, THE US SEES NEED FOR SUCH A PHYSICAL SECURITY CONVENTION. WE ARE NOW STARTING THE WORK BY A SERIES OF HIGHLY EXPLORATORY BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS IN VIENNA. WE OBVIOUSLY DO NOT EXPECT THAT IN SHORT TIME THEY HAVE HAD DRAFT OTHER GOVERNMENTS WILL HAVE HAD TIME TO REVIEW IT AND FORM POSITIONS. WE HOPE THE GOVERNMENTS CONSULTED WILL IN DUE COURSE, GIVE US INITIAL REACTIONS.

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--ON OTHER HAND, SUPPLIERS GROUP MEETING MARCH 31 IS TO DEVELOP LEVELS OF PHYSICAL SECURITY TO BE MUTUALLY AGREED AMONG SUPPLIERS AND BETWEEN SUPPLIER AND RECIPIENT AS A CONDITION OF EXPORT PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 3 OF GUIDELINES.

--THE LONDON MEETING IS DIFFERENT ACTIVITY THAN THAT IN VIENNA. WHILE WE OBVIOUSLY WOULD NOT OBJECT TO

RECEIVING COMMENTS ON CONVENTION AT MARCH SUPPLIERS MEETING, WE WOULD LIKE TO AVOID SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF DRAFT CONVENTION AT THIS MEETING OF THE SUPPLIERS GROUP AND CONCENTRATE ON GUIDELINES TASK. RATHER WE PREFER TO CONTINUE FOCUS OF CONSIDERATION OF CONVENTION IN VIENNA.

3. IF QUESTIONED ON THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT ABOUT DISCUSSING PHYSICAL SECURITY AT THE JUNE SUPPLIERS MEETING, YOU SHOULD INDICATE THAT THE US WILL BE REVIEWING WITH OTHER SUPPLIERS RESULTS OF EXPERTS MEETING AT JUNE MTG.

4. EMBASSIES SHOULD REPORT EXPEDITIOUSLY TO DEPARTMENT REACTIONS OF FOREIGN OFFICE TO ABOVE SO AS TO FACILITATE FOLLOW-ON ACTIONS IN WASHINGTON, VIENNA, OR CAPITOLS, IF NEEDED TO CLARIFY SITUATION.

5. FOR MISSION VIENNA: YOU SHOULD DRAW ON PARAS 2 AND 3 ABOVE AS NEEDED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER SUPPLIER MISSIONS. IN ADDITION, MISSION SHOULD DELAY FURTHER ACTIVITY RE CONVENTION BEYOND MARCH 12 MEETING UNTIL POSTS HAVE COMPLETED ABOVE ACTIONS AND DEPARTMENT HAS OPPORTUNITY TO REASSESS SITUATION. REGARDING MISSION REQUEST IN REF C TO BRIEF SELECTED SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS ON DRAFT CONVENTION ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS, WE ARE CURRENTLY SEEKING EXTENSION OF CIRCULAR 175 AUTHORITY TO PERMIT THIS ACTION. INGERSOLL

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